(a) whether Government have taken any lal decision for rationalising fertilizer price ructure;

(b) if so, whether the increase of prices is med at discouraging farmers from dicriminate use of chemicals;

(c) whether Government are also nsidering to enhance the prices of certain emicals;

(d) whether the Government are confident it new formula will aim at bringing down per unit cost of NPK;

(e) whether Rs. 500 crore earmarked for tilizer subsidy crossed the figure of Rs. 760 ire; and

(0 what were the main reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE IRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) ea is the only fertilizer at present under tutory price control and is sold at a uniform e of Rs. 3320 per tonne throughout the intry. All phosphatic and potassic fertilisers e been decontrolled and the Government has n giving a concession on their sale to the ners to encourage consumption.

(c) Department of chemicals & Petro- micals have informed that presently the es of chemicals are not monitored and ulated by the Government.

(d) Honble Member is perhaps referrign to scheme of Concessional sale of decontrolled ilizers to the farmers'. The scheme is ctive from Rabi season 1992-93. The rates :oncession under the scheme have been anced w.e.f. 6.7.1996 as under:—

fertilizer		(Rate per tonne)
AP (Indigenous)	:	Rs. 3000/-
DAP (Imported)	:	Rs. 1500/-
MOP	:	Rs. 1500/-
SSP:	:	Rs. 500/-
omplexes	:	From Rs. 1304 to 2633 per tonne depending upon their P & K contents.

The States have been asked to ensure that xenefit of the concession is fully passed on e farmers.

(e) The provision of Rs. 500 crores for the financial year 1995-96 was fully utilised. However, the bills for that year are still being received and payments are made from the provision made for the year 1996-97.

(f) It is because of increase in consumption of fertilizers covered under the scheme.

Construction and Upgradation of Railway Projects in Orissa

628. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to take up the construction and upgradation of some Railway projects in Orissa with Japanese assistance;

(b) if so, what are these Railway projects;

(c) the cost of these projects and the fund expected to be obtained from which Japanese company for implementing those projects; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) The possibility of obtaining assistance from the Exim Bank of Japan is being explored.

(b) The projects are Daitari-Banspani and Talcher Sambalpur.

(c) and (d) The cost of the projects are

Rs. 401 crores and Rs. 348 crores respectively. The balance requirements for which efforts are being made to obtain funds from this Bank is Rs. 400 crores and Rs. 150 crores respectively.

Negative Trend of AMS

629. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether product Specific Aggregate; Measurement of Support (AMS) during the reference period 1986-89 remained highly negative amounting to Rs. 19,000/- crores;

(b) whether this figure when calculated for the year 1995 has doubled to more than Rs. 48,000 crores;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and